

From: [Eoc, Epahq](#)
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Subject: EOC Spot Report: Region 6, Post-Tropical Cyclone Harvey - Update #23
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EOC Spot Report: Region 6, Post-Tropical Cyclone Harvey - Update #23

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Report as of September 10, 2017 at 2000 ET

Overview: Hurricane Harvey made landfall at 2300 ET, August 26, as a Category 4 storm near Rockport. Harvey was downgraded to a Category 1 Harvey and stalled over southeastern TX. Response efforts associated with Hurricane Harvey continue. River and bayous will continue to fall below major flood stage, but long-duration flooding will affect response activities.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: FEMA has activated the NRCC at Level 1 with all Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) and deployed National and several regional Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMATs). FEMA's Region 6 RRCC is also at Level 1.

EPA received an amendment to Mission Assignment 4332DR-TX-EPA-03 for an increase of an additional \$1.5 million on September 9, 2017.

EPA Actions:

Air Monitoring

The four EPA air quality technical specialists deployed to Houston conducted total volatile organic compounds (VOC) area monitoring in the Ship Channel area. The team reported that the only VOC readings of significance were observed in the area between Pasadena Refining Systems, Inc. and Kinder Morgan. The team recommended additional TAGA monitoring in that area. If TAGA identifies elevated levels of VOCs of benzene, personnel will conduct site specific evaluations.

Drinking Water / Wastewater Assessments

EPA is providing support to TCEQ for drinking water and wastewater system assessments.

Ten EPA personnel are conducting drinking water assessments in the Houston Branch, while an additional five personnel are conducting wastewater assessments.

TCEQ and EPA have completed surveys of 5,006 drinking water facilities and 3,026 wastewater facilities in the impacted area.

Debris Recovery

The Dallas REOC has been staffed with a Debris Management Technical Expert who participates as a member of the FEMA Debris Task Force.

EPA currently has no mission assignment for debris recovery operations.

Waivers

EPA continues to receive and approve, as appropriate, fuel waiver requests. EPA has extended the current multi-state fuel waiver to September 26.

EPA has received notifications of force majeure from 17 companies covering Louisiana/Texas gulf facilities that impending storms may cause a delay or impediment to performance in complying with provisions of their Consent Decrees.

Superfund NPL Sites

EPA has determined that 41 of 43 Superfund sites in the area do not show damage or excessive flooding associated with Harvey and two sites are still in need of site inspection. EPA determined that two more sites (San Jacinto River Waste Pits and US Oil Recovery) required further inspection.

- U.S. Oil Recovery Update: Since September 5, 2017 a total of 29 vacuum truckloads of water (approximately 145,000 gallon) have been removed and shipped off-site for disposal. The potentially responsible party continues operating pumping equipment and a storage tank to maintain and control overflow. Sampling of the lift station water continues
- San Jacinto Waste Pits Update: Cap repairs are complete on the western part of Southern Berm while repairs continue on the remaining berm sections. Manual probing of capped areas, with oversight by the EPA Dive Team, continues and is expected to be completed September 11, 2017.

EPA directed potentially responsible parties or independently started collecting samples at 34 Texas Superfund Sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. Two EPA field teams arrived on September 8, 2017, and will be joined by three additional field teams on September 11, 2017. Sampling has been completed at 11 sites.

Media Interest: High

The HQ EOC will continue to monitor and provide updates as needed

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